Lithuanian

Lietuvos Laisvės kovų
-Miško Brolių- draugija

Lithuanian Freedom Fighters - Forest Brothers

Laisvės al. 109, Vilnius, Lietuvos Respublika. Tel. 624905, 475403, 228081

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

December 17,1994

Dear Sir,

We, the survivors of the post war Lithuanian freedom fighters, urgently appeal to you, Mr.President, the government and people of the United States to use the influence, authority and all the means you possess to persuade the aggressive circles in Russia to immediately abandon the well-prepared criminal campaign of stifling the Chechen Republic and stop the dreadful massacre of the Chechen people.

We feel obliged, Mr.President, to inform you that your pronouncement and the ensuing pronouncements of other governments that the events in the Chechen Republic is Russia's internal affair encouraged the aggressive circles in the Russian Federation to subjugate this small freedom-loving people to the most cruel treatment.

As you know, Mr.President, the Chechen people believing in human values and trusting in the democratic world governments with their guiding principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, October 27,1991 under the supervision of international observers elected the President and the Parliament of the Chechen Republic; November 1,1991 proclaimed sovereignty, established a democratic state that pursued a neutral policy of peaceful coexistence. Thus after a long Russian domination, the Chechen people could enjoy freedom for over three years on their own ethnic land until the present invasion of the Russian troops.

The newly invented pretexts for denying the right to self-determination for all nations, like in the case of the Chechen Republic, may question the morality and capability of the United Nations and analogous institutions world-wide and plunge the world

further into the disastrous course of development.

We wish, Mr.President, to draw your attention to the fact that the tactics used for denying the right to self-determination for the Baltic countries were similar to those used in the Chechen Republic at present: before the bloodshed a long-range compaign of discrediting a certain statesman, a people or a state is carefully carried out with the help of mass media and other channels, economic pressure, including blockades, is used, anti-independence oppositions are set up, and all traditional hypocritical political maneuvering excercised.

The post war tragedy of Lithuania and other countries should not be repeated in the Chechen Republic. The short-sighted policy of the World War II Allies is still fresh in our memory. It took a long time in the post war period, until a number of leading politicians realised that Lithuania was fighting the Empire of Evil and Cruelty from 1944 till 1955. How much time will be needed, we wonder, until some leading politicians of today realize that the Chechen people are fighting strong and influential relicts of the evil forces inside and ouside Russia today.

Using this opportunity, we wish to express our gratitude once more to the governments of the United States and its people for not recognizing the occupational Soviet regime in Lithuania from June 15, 1940 until March 11, 1990.

Most respectfully yours,

On behalf of the Lithuanian Freedom Fighters
- Forest Brothers -

Algimantas Kentra
Leader

c.c.:mass media